AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended)

An image synthesizing apparatus for synthesizing a subject image with at least an additional image to produce a composite image, comprising:

an image input device for inputting image data of said subject image into a memory;

an image processing device for processing said image data to synthesize said subject image with at least an additional image; and

a mode switching device for switching over said image synthesizing apparatus between an overlay mode and an inlay mode, wherein, in said overlay mode, said image data of said subject image is input into said memory in a size corresponding to a designated print size of said composite image, and at least an additional image is overlaid on a predetermined portion of said subject image, whereas, in said inlay mode, a mount area is defined in said memory in correspondence with a designated print size of said composite image, and said subject image and at least an additional image are inlaid in those ranges which are defined in variable sizes at appropriate locations within said mount area,

wherein in said overlay mode, an outer perimeter of said at least an additional image is equal to said subject image in size shape such that the outer perimeter of the subject image and outer perimeter of said additional image are aligned where and a reference point of said at least an additional image overlaps an origin of said subject image to align the additional image and subject image.

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Claim 2. (Original)

An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said image processing

device processes said image data of said subject image on the basis of a template selected from

among a plurality of templates.

Claim 3. (Original)

An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein said templates comprise

templates which are prepared in correspondence with a plurality of kinds of additional images

available in said overlay mode, and templates for use in said inlay mode each of which is

produced for each composite image to define the print size of said composite image, and the

sizes and locations of said subject image and at least an additional image within said composite

image.

Claim 4. (Original)

An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein said additional images

available for said overlay mode comprise those images which are each constituted of a

transparent portion for partly exposing said subject image and an ornamental image portion to be

superimposed on said subject image.

Claim 5. (Original)

An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 4, wherein said ornamental image

portions comprise images to frame said subject image.

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Claim 6. (Original)

An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein said templates comprise

templates defining at least a character inlaying range for inlaying characters in said composite

image.

Claim 7. (Original)

An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein when the same template

is selected to be used for a plurality of subject images in said overlay mode, said image input

device inputs image data of said plurality of subject images in continuous succession in response

to a command, and said image processing device processes said image data of said subject

images on the basis of said same template to produce a plurality of composite images

successively.

Claim 8. (Original)

An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said image input device

comprises a scanner for picking up image data from an original.

Claim 9. (Original)

An image synthesizing apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein said scanner comprises a

film scanner that picks up image data from pictures photographed on a photographic film.

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